

Northern Monkshood ***Aconitum novboracense***

Habitat: Moist limestone or sandstone cliffs; Algific talus slopes (cold air drainage ways)

Blooms: Between June and August, dark purple to blue; up to 5 feet tall

Threats:

- Limited distribution, considered an Ice Age relic
- Historic collection for medicinal purposes in early settlement times (this threat is no longer an issue)
- Grazing
- Herbicide drift
- Urban expansion
- Invasion of non-native plants
- Logging
 - Removes shade which creates warmer and drier conditions.
 - Causes compaction of the vents which prevents the cold air flow northern monkshood are dependent upon.
 - It also contributes to direct harm from falling or removing logs.
- Human disturbance of sink holes that feed the slopes.
 - Filling in of sink holes



Habitat Improvement Guidelines

- Fencing to exclude grazing
- Limit pesticide use. Do not spray aerially within 100 yards of known habitat or ground spray within 20 yards of known habitat.
- Buffer sink holes to prevent them from filling with sediment.
- Limit human access to areas known to harbor northern monkshood.